What's This?

Home

Media Guide
Movie Reviews
Book Reviews
TV Reviews
Video Game Reviews
Music Reviews
Website Reviews
Recommended Lists

Information
Newsletter Alerts
In the News
Latest Research
Surveys & Polls
Tips & Tools
Media Literacy
Resources
Store

About Us
Mission Statement
Who We Are
The Issue
What We Are Doing
Board of Directors
Board of Advisors
Press
FAQ
Contact Us

Take Action
Email this link
Write a review

GET NEWSLETTER

The free weekly Common Sense Media Alert offers the latest news, reviews, and tips from leading child-rearing experts.

Email:

HTML text

Submit

Learn More >

JOIN US!

Become a member and voice your opinion

SUPPORT US!

(Every contribution helps) Secure Donations by Groundspring.org

TELL A FRIEND!

Send this CommonSenseMedia.org link to a friend

Video Game / Software / Toy Reviews - Ice Age

Overview | Common Sense Review | Adult Reviews | Kid Reviews

Developer: UbiSoft
Category/Genre: Video Games - Action/Adventure
Platform: Game Boy advance
Price: $20
ESRB Rating: E
Entertainment Value: Poor. Repetitive gameplay and short levels make the game dull quickly.
Graphics: Good.
Playability: Fair. Some levels are unduly frustrating.
Reading Level: No reading required.
Release Date: 11/11/2002

Rate it

Common Sense Rating

Ratings From Our Members

Adult Reviews
Rate It

Kids Reviews (under 18)
Rate It

Run and jump through levels while fighting off saber-toothed tigers and other animals in an effort to collect nuts. The game is loosely based on the animated movie of the same name.

Common Sense Notes

The kids may like the idea of controlling characters from the movie for a while, but they will tire quickly of this repetitive and uninspired game. The player has to kill a lot of other animals along the way, some of which aren't aggressive, which could be a good discussion topic.

Common Sense Review

Reviewed By: Kevin Savetz

Video game spin-offs of movies are nothing new, and smart developers have figured out that it takes more than a name to make a game worthwhile. The makers of ICE AGE apparently haven't learned that lesson.

ICE AGE is a ho-hum platform game in which the player walks, runs, and jumps across ten horizontally scrolling levels. Depending on the level, you control either Manny, a lumbering woolly mammoth ridden by an infant; or Sid, a speedy sloth. When enemies get in the way, such as saber-tooth tigers and dodo birds, the player must kill them. The mammoth can strike with its tusks or throw nuts, while the sloth has a "spin attack." It's cartoonish violence in which defeated enemies simply disappear. The goal is to collect as many nuts as possible on the way to finishing ten levels.

The game is easy to learn and controls are simple, but gameplay quickly becomes repetitive. There's no room for creativity or striking out in a new direction: you must simply follow the path laid out for you. You can take your time and proceed at your own pace in the mammoth levels, but the sloth levels scroll along quickly. If the player can't keep up and is nudged off the edge of the scrolling screen, he loses a life, which will prove frustrating for younger children.

© Common Sense Media Inc. 2003. All rights reserved. Website design by ISL Consulting Co.